

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 and 17 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 5 and 13 are amended, and claim 17 is added. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found on page 15, lines 8-16, page 14, lines 6-19 and in Figs. 14(a) - 14(c), for example. No new matter is added. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments above and the remarks below is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0089708 to Cheng in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,185,014 to Ishii. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

On page 2, the Office Action concedes that Chang does not disclose two first screen vectors, one in each halftone screen are parallel to each other, and two second screen vectors, one in each halftone screen are not parallel to each other. The Office Action asserts that Ishii supplies the missing subject matter. Ishii does not disclose that the two halftone screens have different pitches, as recited in claims 1 and 13.

Ishii discloses that different half-tone screens having parallel screen vectors have the same pitch (Figs. 4, 5 and 6). In contrast, this application discloses different half-tone screens having parallel screen vectors and having different pitches (e.g. the bottom row of dots in Fig. 14(c)). Thus, Ishii does not disclose the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 13.

The Office Action concedes, on page 2, that Chang does not disclose that the two first screen vectors are parallel, and does not disclose that the two second screen vectors are not parallel. Thus, Chang cannot disclose that the pitch of the two first halftone screens are different. Accordingly, Chang cannot supply the subject matter missing in Ishii.

In view of the above, the asserted combination of applied references would not have suggested the combinations of features recited in claims 1 and 13. Thus, the combination of

applied references would not have suggested the features recited in claims 2-12, 14 and 15 for at least the respective dependence of these claims on an allowable base claim, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

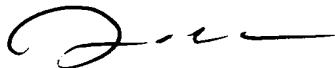
Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejections of claims 1-15 are respectfully requested.

Added claim 17 depends from claim 1 and, thus, distinguishes over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-15, and consideration of and allowance of added claim 17, are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Jesse D. Sukman  
Registration No. 54,477

JAO:JDS/acd

Attachment:

Request for Continued Examination

Date: March 4, 2009

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 320850**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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